

California Department of
WATER RESOURCES



California Department of Water Resources



DWR Mission:

To manage the water resources of California, in cooperation with other agencies, to benefit the state's people and protect, restore, and enhance the natural and human environments.

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR), established in 1956 by the California Legislature, plays an important role in sustaining California's economy, environment and quality of life. DWR operates and maintains the California State Water Project (SWP), which provides drinking water and water to our farms. Other programs work to preserve the natural environment and wildlife, monitor dam safety, manage floodwaters, conserve water use, and provide technical assistance and funding for projects for local water needs. These are among many activities as DWR strives to meet the water needs of today and the future.

DWR's major responsibilities include overseeing the statewide process of developing and updating the California Water Plan (Bulletin 160 series); protecting and restoring the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta; regulating dams, providing flood



Antelope Lake

protection, and assisting in emergency management; educating the public about the importance of water and its proper use; providing technical assistance to service local water needs; and planning, designing, constructing, operating and maintaining California's State Water Project.

The SWP is the largest state-built, multi-purpose, user-financed water project in the United States. In addition to supplying high quality water for California's cities, industries, and farms, the SWP also provides flood control, hydroelectric power generation, recreation, enhancement and protection of fish and wildlife habitat.

The SWP provides water supply for an estimated 25 million Californians and about 750,000 acres of farmland. The SWP, spanning more than 600 miles from Northern California to Southern California, includes 34 storage facilities, 20 pumping plants, five hydroelectric power plants, four pumping-generating plants, and approximately 700 miles of canals, tunnels, and pipelines.

Twenty-nine water contracting agencies throughout California have signed long-term contracts to purchase water delivered by the SWP. Approximately 70 percent of SWP water goes to urban users and 30 percent to agricultural users. Through these contracts, the agencies are repaying the water supply and power related revenue and general obligation bonds (plus interest) that fund the SWP's construction, as well as current costs necessary to operate and maintain all SWP water supply and power facilities.



Vista del Lago Visitors Center



Oroville Dam

Our Programs - DWR Divisions/Offices and Duties

Bay-Delta Office - Plans facilities and implements actions in the Sacramento - San Joaquin Delta to improve water quality, water supply and reliability, and the ecosystem. Develops and conducts studies and implements the related actions to meet regulatory requirements for the State Water Project (SWP) in the Delta and Suisun Marsh. The office develops and maintains computer simulation models to analyze the effects of projects and actions proposed or undertaken by the DWR or other agencies.

California Energy Resources Scheduling Division (CERS) - Handles power contracting issues stemming from the 2001 electrical power crisis in California. CERS oversees management of long-term energy contracts entered into by DWR during the crisis to provide electricity to customers of California's investor-owned utilities.

Division of Engineering (DOE) - Provides timely, cost-effective, and quality engineering, geology, construction, real estate, geodetic and administrative services to clients in concert with DWR's strategic goals and objectives. DOE's work benefits the public, water community, and local, state, and federal agencies. Division experts perform engineering and construction management on a wide variety of water infrastructure systems and elements. These include, but are not limited to, dams, reservoirs, bridges, buildings, canals, tunnels, pipelines, roads, pumping and power plants, flood protection facilities, environmental enhancement projects, and facilities to improve water quality and supply.

Division of Environmental Services - Helps DWR comply with state and federal environmental rules that affect SWP operations and water management programs. Division experts negotiate solutions and develop strategies to avoid or reduce adverse effects on the environment that could result from water management activities. Develops criteria for fish protective facilities. Coordinates with other state and federal agencies on mitigation programs, and conducts a variety of fish and wildlife studies, including many in the ecologically sensitive Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

Division of Flood Management (DFM) - Works to prevent loss of life and reduce property damage caused by floods. DFM monitors weather and river conditions, issues forecasts, coordinates flood response and manages emergency information; participates in flood control projects; inspects and maintains levees, bypasses, weirs, and other flood control

structures. Staff includes experts in flood forecasting, hydrology, meteorology, emergency operations, flood control project development and maintenance, and floodplain management. DFM also has the lead role in implementing FloodSAFE California – a multi-faceted initiative to integrate flood management. FloodSAFE will improve public safety and flood management in California through a system-wide integrated approach that will help reduce flood risk at regional and local levels. Collaboratively developing Central Valley Flood Protection Plan and Statewide Flood Management Plan.

FloodSAFE Environmental Stewardship and Statewide Resources Office (FESSRO) - Provides environmentally sustainable solutions to flood management by working with design professionals, maintenance staff, engineers, scientists, and planners to incorporate fish and wildlife habitat into large structural systems; develop innovative advance mitigation methods for unavoidable impacts; research subsidence reversal; and assist local agencies with flood projects. Expert staff manages the Conservation Strategy for the Central Valley flood system, the environmental documentation for the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan and Delta Flood Protection Program, the Fish Passage Improvement Program, the Urban Streams Program, the Salton Sea Program, and the Delta Flood Protection and Levees Program. Functions include grants administration, assessment, design, and monitoring of ecosystem restoration and flood projects.

Division of Operations and Maintenance (O&M) - Manages California SWP facilities, including its pumping and hydroelectric plants, dams, reservoirs, aqueducts and buildings. O&M's Sacramento headquarters and staff, located at Oroville, Delta, San Luis, San Joaquin, and Southern field divisions, are responsible for the operation and maintenance of the SWP, including both routine and emergency repairs.

Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) - Created in 1929 after the failure of St. Francis Dam, DSOD is composed of highly specialized engineers and geologists who work closely with dam owners and their consulting engineers to ensure the safety of dams in California. The 1,250 state-regulated dams are inspected at least once a year by DSOD engineers familiar with the history, performance, instrumentation, background and unique details of each dam. Engineers independently review and evaluate designs of new, enlarged or repaired dams which must meet state safety requirements. Engineers and geologists perform frequent inspections of dams under construction to verify compliance with approved plans and specifications. Engineers also re-evaluate dams to predict dam performance during extreme conditions such as floods and earthquakes. They quickly respond to emergency situations to assess performance and ensure downstream safety.





SWP FACTS

- 34 Storage facilities
- 20 Pumping plants
- 5 Hydroelectric power plants
- 4 Pumping-generating plants
- 700 + miles of canals, tunnels, and pipelines

- Pumping-Generating Plant
- Pumping Plant
- ▲ Powerplant
- ◆ Pump Station
- ★ Visitors Center
- # DWR Offices



Legend for SWP Map

Northern California

1. Eureka Flood Center, 302 Startare Drive, Eureka
2. Sutter Maintenance Yard, 6908 Colusa Highway, Sutter
3. Northern Region Office, 2440 Main Street, Red Bluff
4. Oroville Field Division, 460 Glen Drive, Oroville
5. DWR Headquarters, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento
6. North Central Region Office, 3500 Industrial Boulevard, West Sacramento

Central California

7. Delta Field Division, 5280 Bruns Road, Byron
8. San Luis Field Division, 31770 Gonzaga Road, Gustine
9. South Central Region Office, 3374 East Shields Avenue, Fresno
10. San Joaquin Field Division, 4201 Sabodan Street, Bakersfield

Southern California

11. Southern Field Division, 34534 116th Street East, Pearblossom
12. Southern Region Office, 770 Fairmont Avenue, Glendale

Visitors Centers

13. Lake Oroville Visitors Center, 917 Kelly Ridge Road, Oroville (530) 538-2219
14. Romero Overlook Visitors Center, 15 miles west of Los Banos (209) 827-5353
15. Vista del Lago Visitors Center, 35800 Vista del Lago Road, Gorman (661) 294-0219



Division of Statewide Integrated Water Management - Conducts and supports water resources and flood management planning. Develops and adapts California's water and flood management systems, while applying principles and practices of integrated water management. This division researches and publishes the California Water Plan Update (Bulletin 160) at five-year intervals, giving carefully researched updates of California's current and future water supply and demand needs. It also provides expertise, technical help and key support activities for some two dozen resource management strategies described in the California Water Plan Update.

Division of Integrated Regional Water Management - Supports the stewardship of California's water resources at the local level through technical and financial assistance, data collection and dissemination, resources evaluation and coordination. This division includes two branches in Sacramento and four regional offices in Red Bluff, West Sacramento, Fresno and Glendale. It provides expertise in surface and groundwater hydrology, land and water use, recreation planning, mapping, restoration design and construction, water master service and environmental review and compliance. It administers loan and grant programs designed to achieve more efficient use of surface and groundwater resources and to promote integrated regional water management.

State Water Project Analysis Office (SWPAO) - Administers water contracts for California's State Water Project. Staff negotiates and administers agreements to implement current water policy for an estimated 25 million Californians who depend upon SWP water for at least some of their water supply. The office also facilitates water deliveries and transfers, and allocates about \$1 billion in annual charges among the 29 agencies with long-term contracts to purchase SWP water.

State Water Project Power and Risk Office (PARO) - Develops and administers a comprehensive program to obtain reliable, environmentally friendly, and competitively priced power resources and transmission services to operate the State Water Project. PARO develops and manages new and existing power resources such as renewable energy projects, highly efficient low-emitting natural gas plants, and long-term contracts needed for reliable SWP operations. Quantifying and reporting greenhouse gas emissions associated with the SWP and taking action to reduce these emissions is also a responsibility of this office. Other obligations include meeting the requirements and criteria of the Western Electricity Coordinating Council and conforming with regulations of agencies that include the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.



Other Divisions and Offices - Department-wide administrative and technical support is provided by the Division of Fiscal Services, Management Services, Office of the Chief Counsel, Technology Services, Internal Audit Office, Office of Workforce Equality, and the Public Affairs Office.

California Water Commission and Central Valley Flood Protection Board - The Board and Commission are administratively assigned to DWR, but function independently on specific advisory or regulatory issues.

The California Water Commission advises DWR's director on policy issues, approves regulations, coordinates state and local views with regard to federal appropriations for flood control and water development projects, and helps determine public benefits of new water storage facilities. The nine members of the Commission are appointed by the Governor to four-year terms.

The Central Valley Flood Protection Board oversees flood control along the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers, the two major rivers in the Central Valley, and their tributaries, in cooperation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

DWR Information

DWR Receptionist: *(916) 653-5791*

Publications: *(916) 653-1097*

Public Affairs Office: *(916) 653-6192*

State Water Conservation Center: *(916) 653-2980*

State/Federal Flood Operations Center

24-hour and emergency: *(800) 952-5530*

If you need this in an alternate form, please contact the Public Affairs Office at 1-800-272-8869.

Hearing impaired can call the California Relay Service (voice) at 1-800-735-2922.

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